

THE OKAUCHEE HOUSE
OKAUCHEE, WISCONSIN

H.A.B.S.~WIS-II

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PHOTOGRAPHS
WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA
DISTRICT OF WISCONSIN
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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY
ALEXANDER C. GUTH~DISTRICT OFFICER
1249 NORTH FRANKLIN PLACE, MILWAUKEE, WIS.

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"THE OKAUCHEE HOUSE" (INN)
Village of Okauchee, Waukesha County, Wisconsin

Fred Falkner (Owner)

Erected - 1841

No architect

Builder - Israel McConnell

The present condition is excellent. The building remains intact today, except for the front porch, which has been removed. No trace of the original lines of this feature has ever been found.

The building is three stories in height.

The basement walls are of large field stone; the rest of the building is entirely constructed of wood, including the roof. Chimneys are of brick.

This hostelry which dates from the days of the stage-coach lines of Wisconsin is interesting from a ~~construct~~ structural stand point. The entire exterior walls and some of the cross partitions are constructed of 2 x 6 inch timbers placed flatwise, one on top of the other; through every 6 courses a wooden dowl is extended. This is the only building of this type found in Wisconsin.

All of the lumber used in the construction of this Inn was milled close by by one named Harrison Reed. He also manufactured the iron nails which are all hand wrought. The glass is hand blown type beautifully rippled. The floor boards are extremely wide.

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The ball room which occupies most of the upper floor has a barrel vaulted ceiling, extending well up into the rafters. The basement contains an immense brick oven with an over size kettle built into it for the boiling of soap and food for the swine. It is a significant fact that this Inn with a myriad of bed rooms contains no closet or bath room. The building is used as a residence today.

All the foregoing facts were gathered at the building or were learned from the present owner of the structure.

Alexander Carl Guth
District Officer

Rev. Apr. 14 1937 - TWA